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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Ridley, et al.)	Group Art Unit:	3737
)		
Serial No:	10/705,784)	Examiner:	Unknown
)		
Filed:	November 11, 2003)	Our Account No:	04-1403
)		
Confirmation No:	5220)	Customer No:	22827
)		
Title:	Ultrasound Guided Probe Device And)		
	Method Of Using Same)		

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The following is an Information Disclosure Statement for the captioned patent application, pursuant to 37 CFR Sections 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98.

1.[x] Attached hereto is:

- a.[x] A list of materials for consideration per Rule 98(a)(1): 2 page(s)
- b.[x] A legible copy of each patent, publication, or other item listed per Rule 98(1)(2), unless not required per Rule 98 and/or as indicated on the attached list(s):
39 item(s)
- c.[] For each non-English language item listed, pursuant to Rule 98(a)(3), a concise explanation of the relevance thereof as it is presently understood by the individual designated in Rule 56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of such items: _____

[] Such explanation is provided in the Search Report from a corresponding application enclosed herewith along with any enclosed translation into English.

2.[x] This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed [CHECK ONE]:

- a.[x] WITHIN THREE MONTHS of the application filing date, national stage date of entry, or along with or after a request for continued examination, OR BEFORE the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, which ever event occurs last, WHEREFORE per Rule 97(b) NO filing fee or Rule 97(e) certificate is required.
- b.[] AFTER the time periods of section 2.a above, but BEFORE a Final Action, Notice of Allowance OR an action that otherwise closes prosecution, WHEREFORE PER Rule 97(c) submitted herewith is [CHECK ONE]:
 - i.[] Certification per Rule 97(e); OR
 - ii.[] Filing Fee per Rule 17(p)\$180.00
- c.[] AFTER a Final Action OR Notice of Allowance, but BEFORE payment of the issue fee, WHEREFORE per Rule 97(d) submitted herewith is:
 - i. Certification per Rule 97(e); AND
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3.[] Rule 97(e) Certification; per Rule 97(e), the undersigned certifying party make the following certification statement [CHECK ONE]:

- a.[] That each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement; OR
- b.[] That no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and to the knowledge of the undersigned after making a reasonable

inquiry, was known to any individual designated in Rule 56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

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- 4.[x] DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AUTHORIZATION: The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any fees in addition to the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under Rules 16-18 (deficiency only) now or hereafter relative to this application and the resulting official document under Rule 20, or credit any overpayment, to our Account No. shown in the heading hereof for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached. This statement does not authorize charge of the issue fee in this case.

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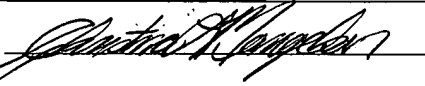
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By: Christina L. Mangelsen, Patent Agent

Reg. No: 50,244

Signature: 

Date: April 5, 2004

(Rev. 5/92) Information Disclosure Statement List By Applicant(s) Under 37 CFR Section 1.98(a) (1) (Use several sheets if necessary)	Attorney Docket Number: HMD-1	Serial Number: 10/705,784
	Applicant: Ridley, et al.	
	Filing Date: November 11, 2003 Confirmation No: 5220	Group Art Unit: 3737

- NOTE: If no indication is made in the column marked "COPY NOTE," the required legible copy of the corresponding item is submitted herewith; otherwise, a copy is not required and/or not submitted, for the following reason(s) [corresponding reason number is listed in "COPY NOTE" column]
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 - (2) A copy of this item was previously cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in:
 USSN _____, filed _____, or
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 - (3) Both reasons (1) and (2) apply
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 - (5) Per the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's waiver of Rule 98(a)(2)(i), the item is a U.S. patent or patent application publication, and the present application was filed after June 30, 2003.

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS										
EXAMINER INITIALS	PATENTEE NAME	PATENT NUMBER							ISSUE DATE	COPY NOTE
	Soldner	4	0	2	9	0	8	4	06/14/1977	5
	Kanda, et al.	4	0	4	4	2	7	3	08/23/1977	5
	Matzuk	4	6	7	1	2	9	2	06/09/1987	5
	Boner, et al.	4	6	8	1	1	0	3	07/21/1987	5
	Cooper	4	8	3	8	5	0	6	06/13/1989	5
	Dardel	5	2	6	1	4	0	9	11/16/1993	5
	Dias	5	2	9	1	0	9	0	03/01/1994	5
	Onik, et al.	5	4	9	4	0	3	9	02/27/1996	5
	Miller, et al.	5	7	5	8	6	5	0	06/02/1998	5
	Ellard	5	8	7	1	4	4	8	02/16/1999	5
	Park, et al.	5	9	2	4	9	9	2	07/20/1999	5
	Friend, et al.	5	9	2	8	2	1	9	07/27/2999	5
	Cermak	5	9	4	1	8	8	9	08/24/1999	5
	Levin, et al.	5	9	7	1	9	4	9	10/26/1999	5
	Ritchart, et al.	6	0	1	7	3	1	6	01/25/2000	5
	Shmulewitz, et al.	6	0	2	7	4	5	7	02/22/2000	5
	Downey, et al.	6	2	0	6	8	3	2	03/27/2001	5
	Paltiel	6	2	1	6	0	2	9	04/10/2001	5
	Bates, et al.	6	3	6	1	4	9	9	03/26/2002	5
	Filly, et al.	6	3	7	9	3	0	7	04/30/2002	5
	Green, et al.	6	3	9	8	7	1	1	06/04/2002	5
	Guthrie, et al.	6	4	0	9	6	8	6	06/25/2002	5
	Sasady	6	4	4	3	9	0	2	09/03/2002	5
	Stephens, et al.	6	5	5	7	3	6	5	10/01/2002	5
	Weiss, et al.	6	5	2	7	7	3	1	03/04/2003	5
	Buil, et al.	6	5	5	4	7	7	1	04/29/2003	5
	Holdaway, et al.	6	5	8	2	3	6	8	06/24/2003	5

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS										
EXAMINER INITIALS	APPLICANT'S NAME	PUBLICATION NUMBER							PUBLICATION DATE	COPY NOTE
	Edwards, et al.	0	0	3	1	9	4	1	10/18/2001	5

(Rev. 5/92) Information Disclosure Statement List By Applicant(s) Under 37 CFR Section 1.98(a) (1) (Use several sheets if necessary)	Attorney Docket Number: HMD-1	Serial Number: 10/705,784
	Applicant: Ridley, et al.	
	Filing Date: November 11, 2003 Confirmation No: 5220	Group Art Unit: 3737

	Jordan, III	0	0	3	6	7	0	9	02/20/2003	5
	Weiss, et al.	0	0	8	2	5	1	8	06/27/2002	5
	Shelby, et al.	0	0	9	7	0	6	6	05/22/2003	5
	Furia	0	1	2	3	6	8	9	09/05/2002	5
	Wang, et al.	0	1	5	6	3	7	6	10/24/2002	5
	Zhao, et al.	0	1	7	3	7	1	9	11/21/2002	3
	Edwards, et al.	0	1	8	3	7	4	0	12/05/2002	5

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS															
EXAMINER INITIALS		COUNTRY	DOCUMENT NUMBER								PUBLICATION DATE	TRANSLATION			COPY NOTE
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*"NO" means that no copy of an English language translation is within the possession, custody, or control of, or is readily available to any individual designated in Rule 56(c).

EXAMINER INITIALS	OTHER DOCUMENTS Specify author (if any), Title, Pertinent Pages, Date & Place of Publication	COPY NOTE
	Article - <i>The SMART needle</i> , Anaesthesia, Vol. 49, 1994, pp. 889-891	
	Product Information from Hitachi, Probes and Systems, 5 pages	
	Making Health Care Safer: A Critical Analysis of Patient Safety Practices, Evidence Report/Technology Assessment, No. 43, July 20, 2001, Preface and Table of Contents - i-x, Summary - 1-8, Chapter 21. Ultrasound Guidance of Central Vein Catheterization - 245-253	
	Product Information Sheet for Biopsy Probe EUP-B31 from Hitachi	www.hitachimed.com , 09/22/2003
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED
Examiner: initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with the next communication to applicant.		